

Friday, June 11, 2021

Postal Regulatory Commission

I am writing my concerns and opposition to Post Master General Louis DeJoy's proposed 10-year plan, Delivering for America.

The actions taken by the Post Master General since his appointment in May 2020 have been extensively reported in the press¹ and for all purposes manifest an apparent effort to degrade, cripple and dismantle the Postal System without any apparent positive regard for either its stated mission or understanding of its historical underpinnings.

*As has been noted often, [a]t the beginning of our nation, and in the midst of the war for independence, there was a critical need to bind the people together through a reliable and secure system for the exchange of information and the delivery of correspondence. This led to the creation of America's postal system in 1775, which preceded the birth of our country. **The United States Postal Service has played a vital, sustaining, and unifying role in the life of the nation and in the lives of the American public ever since.**²*

During my lifetime there have been countless undeniable changes in our society – changing the way individuals, families, business and government conduct their everyday concerns; nevertheless, there is still a need for the Postal System to exist so that it serves the people – rather than cannibalizing the Postal Service so that it operates much like a private-profit-seeking corporation whose mission is to serve its members or its shareholders rather than its customers.

Even though I continue to send and receive personal correspondence through the Postal Service, I will concede that younger generations are communicating via online messaging apps. That said, there are services

¹ To name a few: removal of blue post office boxes and removal and destruction of large mail sorting machines and instituting "operational changes" that "include reductions of overtime availability. <https://www.cnn.com/2020/08/24/politics/usps-dejoy-misleading-testimony-overtime-fact-check/index.html>

² The United States Postal Service: An American History
<https://about.usps.com/publications/pub100.pdf>

that the USPS can perform that messaging apps cannot – nor should messaging apps every be permitted to perform. For example, mail in voting ballots are both a critical and necessary service for this country to maintain our democracy and protect our civil rights. Undeniably, there are problems with the current Postal System; but closing locations, restricting hours, focusing on parcel delivery are not appropriate measures and there are other options available.

In conclusion, I am petitioning you to completely reject the Post Master General's 10-year plan and recommendations. Louis DeJoy may occupy the Office of the Post Master General, but I do not believe he has the best interests of the American public (all political parties, all demographics) much less the Postal Service in mind as he seeks to impose restrictive measures upon our Postal System. So while he may occupy a top level position, he has demonstrated he lacks the necessary nonpartisan attitude and demeanor to effectively discharge his responsibilities and lead the Postal Service employees in the near and distant future. The actions he took during the Trump Administration demonstrated his willingness to serve as an acolyte to then President Trump rather than serve as a Public Servant; and so it is my personal opinion that he is both untrustworthy and diabolical.

*Regards,
Karen Westberry
1026 W. 63rd St.
Kansas City, MO 64113
816/859-0151*